## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



Governor

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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## SITUATION REPORT

Mississippi River Flooding

## **UPDATE**

May 17, 2001

Heavy Rains and flood waters from the North Central States continue to cause some flooding problems along the Mississippi River and it's smaller tributaries in Northeast Missouri. In all counties adjacent to the Mississippi River, there is lowland flooding and some roads have been inundated by the high water.

<u>Clark County:</u> The county has been experiencing lowland flooding for the last week. SEMA personnel arrived Tuesday in Alexandria to assess the situation and reported no flooding in the city of Alexandria and the river has crested and been falling since Sunday. The Mississippi-Fox Levee has been overtopped in one place and failed in two other places, impacting the agricultural area protected by the levee. The levee district has been in contact with the Rock Island Corps of Engineers Office in addition to this office. Hwy 61 at Hwy A remains closed due to water over the road.

<u>Lewis County:</u> About 10 families in the town of LaGrange have been evacuated, along with the closing of the Post Office and a few other businesses, due to flooding from the Mississippi. This information is according to Terry Fretwell, EMD for the city of Canton. Business Route 61 is closed just north of Canton to south of LaGrange. He said Canton has sandbags in place and a levee which is holding at this time. American Red Cross is reporting that all impacted families needs are being met.

**Scotland County:** No Change from yesterdays report.

<u>Marion County/Hannibal:</u> The county has experienced lowland agricultural flooding. The city closed their flood gates and seem to be in good shape and holding.

**Ralls County:** According to the Sheriff's Office, a portion of Highway 79 is closed south of Hannibal, and Highway E at Saverton. The local Red Cross chapter reported receiving a call from one family in Saverton (Riverview Acres), which was experiencing water in the yard. American Red Cross are sheltering 4 families in Monkey Run.

<u>Pike County:</u> The county has experienced some lowland and agricultural area flooding. Highway 79 remains closed in several places between Louisiana to Clarksville and Clarksville to Annada. A couple of businesses in Louisiana and Clarksville have been inundated by high water. Clarksville has requested some additional sandbags. The sandbag wall is in place to help protect the Post Office, bank and several other businesses, according to Al Murray, Pike County EMD. The American Red Cross has been contacted to provide cleaning kits in both Louisiana and Clarksville. American Red Cross providing shelter for 3 families in local hotels.

<u>Lincoln County:</u> Lowland and agricultural land is experiencing flooding, especially along the Cuivre River in the area of Old Monroe. Sandbags have been released from the Corps of Engineers to communities on a by request basis.

**St. Charles County:** Although flood levels are high along some areas of the Mississippi River, virtually all of the impacted areas are located on the river side of levee protection. Water levels in waterfront subdivisions along Highway B range from 1 foot to over 6 feet. Most of the structures in this area are elevated to one foot over 1973 flood levels. Therefore, these structures still have about 3-4 feet of freeboard.

<u>SEMA Actions:</u> SEMA dispatched three personnel Tuesday to the counties in Northeast Missouri. Two are still assessing the situation in all counties. Today the assessment team will be traveling south from Hannibal to Winfield in Lincoln County to assess the situation paying particular attention to the damage in Pike County. SEMA has recommended to local officials that calls regarding agricultural area flooding be referred to the local Farm Services Agency(FSA) office. American Red Cross has a government liaison contacting local officials.

**FORECAST:** A cold front is expected to cross the area and expected to bring showers through the day and evening on Thursday. Additional showers are expected early next week. The Mississippi River is cresting from the north to the south as the week progresses, the National Weather Service predicts the crest to pass Louisiana and Clarksville today. The Missouri River will continue to experience higher levels than normal but remain below flood stage in most locations. The high water is due to a backup from the high levels along the Mississippi River.